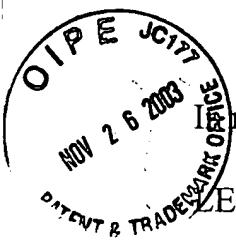


PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



File the Application of:

LEHTONEN et al

Group Art Unit: 2833

Application No.: 10/612,341

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: July 3, 2003

Attorney Dkt. No.: 60091.00232

For: CONNECTION METHOD AND CONNECTION ARRANGEMENT

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 26, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

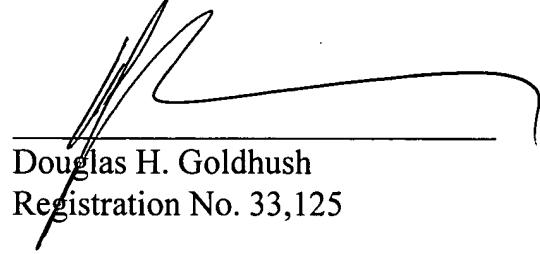
- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, or (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a

foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-2222 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-2222 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
  - a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
  - b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- 4. The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

In the event that there are any fees due with respect to the filing of this paper,  
please charge Counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: PTO-1449 Form  
Finnish Search Report  
3 References

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

60091.00232

SERIAL NO.

10/612,341

APPLICANT

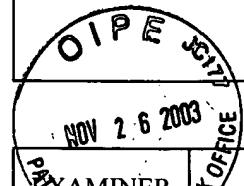
LEHTONEN et al

FILING DATE

July 3, 2003

GROUP

2833



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| PATENT EXAMINER<br>INTERIM TRADEMARK OFFICE | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE     | NAME   | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|----------|--------|-------|-----------|-------------|
|                                             | AA 5,532,659 | 07/02/96 | Dodart |       |           |             |
|                                             | AB 6,065,976 | 05/23/00 | Wang   |       |           |             |
|                                             | AC           |          |        |       |           |             |
|                                             | AD           |          |        |       |           |             |
|                                             | AE           |          |        |       |           |             |
|                                             | AF           |          |        |       |           |             |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|    | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE     | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES    NO    PART. |
|----|--------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| AG | WO 02/084808 | 10/24/02 | WIPO    |       |           | xx                                |
| AH |              |          |         |       |           |                                   |
| AI |              |          |         |       |           |                                   |
| AJ |              |          |         |       |           |                                   |
| AK |              |          |         |       |           |                                   |

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|          |                 |  |
|----------|-----------------|--|
| AL       |                 |  |
| AM       |                 |  |
| AN       |                 |  |
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |  |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.